

COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow.

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 8 September and 1 to 16 November 1951

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 6 December 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 - envelopes containing Soviet documents.

REMARKS Documents forwarded to Washington.

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SOURCE

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1. On 1 November 1951, six boxcars with billeting equipment and an undetermined number of cars with about 50 motor vehicles were unloaded at the Rathenow-Nord (N 53/Z 15) railroad station. The motor vehicles, which included

went to the Fuesilier Kaserne. Soldiers were furnishing their quarters at the installation. All barracks buildings of the installation were lighted at dusk. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Trucks observed in barracks traffic

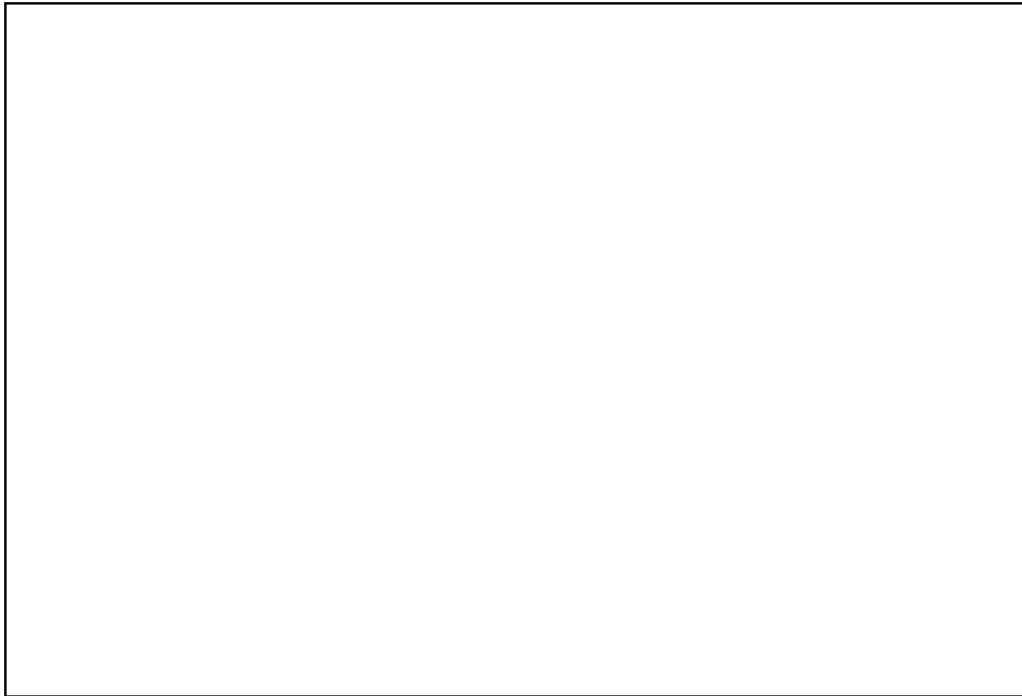
2. On 1 November, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Troops observed were engaged in policing the billeting area and repair work. About 60 artillery pieces stood in the gun shed. They definitely included models 1939 and 1942 field guns of 76.2-mm and other artillery pieces of about 120-mm.

3. Soviet documents found at the Kraftfahrer Kaserne in Rathenow during October 1951 included:

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25X1C 4. On 1 November, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The soldiers were engaged in policing and furnishing quarters. Trucks [redacted] were observed at the installation.

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25X1C 5. As usual, officers were seen going from their billets to the Ziethen Kaserne on Bahnhofstrasse on 2 November. Sentries at the Ziethen Kaserne wore red-bordered black epaulets. Sedan [redacted] occupied by a high-ranking officer, and truck [redacted] entered the installation.

25X1C 6. On 8 November, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne was occupied by about 400 troops. One barracks building housed a hospital. At about 9:30 a.m. on 7 November, about 250 soldiers were assembled in the barracks yard for a ceremony. On 8 November, about 100 soldiers were observed practicing with 4 x 76.2-mm field guns and 2 x 152-mm howitzers towed by caterpillar tractors. [redacted]

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25X1C 7. On 3 November, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied by 200 to 300 troops. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. No training activity was observed. [redacted]

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8. On 7 November, the Fuesilier Kaserne quartered between 800 and 1,000 troops. At about 10 a.m., about 500 soldiers, organized into units of about 100 each and led by a colonel, marched from the installation to the Soviet war memorial. Each unit was headed by three officers. On 3 November, small groups of soldiers were observed marching from the Fuesilier Kaserne to the gun shed of the Kraftfahrer Kaserne. Trucks [redacted] were seen at the Fuesilier Kaserne.

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9. On 8 November, there were about 150 soldiers in the unit at the repair shop on Ebert Ring. The maintenance work was intensive after the return of the troops to Rathenow. About 50 to 60 trucks were parked at the repair shop. They

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10. On 11 November, about 250 discharges from the Pionier Kaserne entrained for Magdeburg. On 16 November, about 1,500 recruits, wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, arrived in Rathenow from Gerdauen and marched to the Pionier Kaserne. (3)

11. An envelope found at the Pionier Kaserne on 8 September was addressed to the commanding officer of the motor transport company [redacted] post-marked 18 June 1951, and mailed by Viktor Temofeyevich Lukin (probably an officer) [redacted] (4)

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- (1) Comments
The information indicates that, beginning 1 November 1951, Wald Kaserne I, II and III were occupied to capacity by units which, [redacted] belong to the 5th Arty Div. The units include components of the 65th (?) Mort Brig which, according to another source, arrived in Rathenow on three trains on 3 November, and, according to information of mid-September 1951 by the same source, may have been quartered in the Fuesilier Kaserne. [redacted] This would also account for the relatively high number of troops in the Fuesilier Kaserne as stated in paragraph 8 of the present report. The numbers of troops in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne and the Pionier Kaserne as stated by the same source in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the present report were probably underestimated as elements of the unidentified Gun Arty Brig, probably the 10th, are believed to be quartered there.

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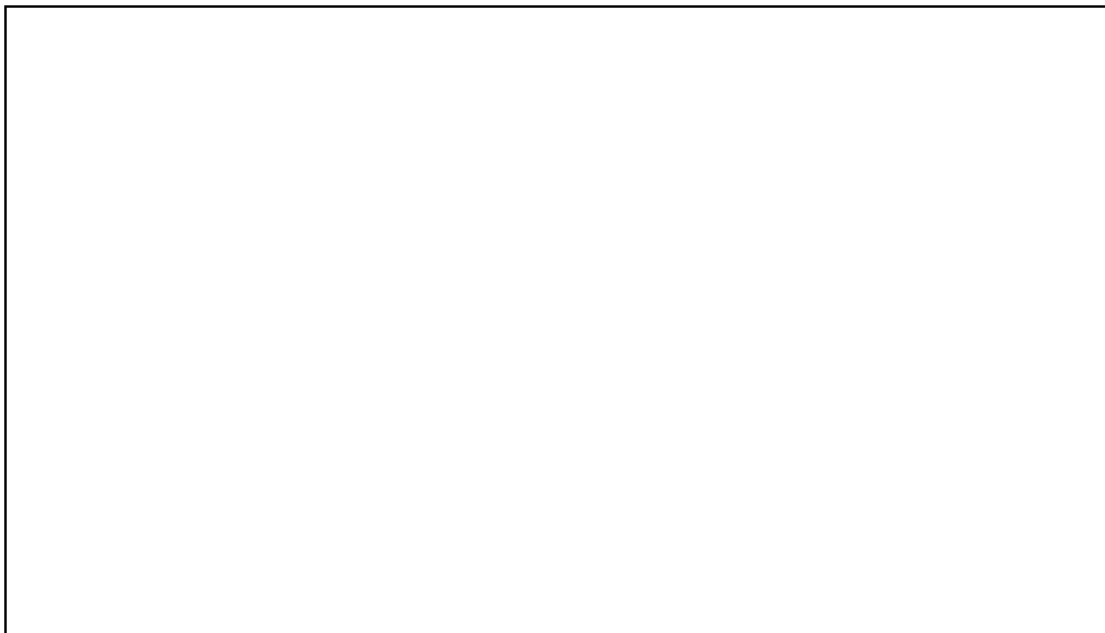
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(3) The information refers to the replacement of discharges by recruits which has been observed in the Soviet Zone of Germany since early October 1951.

(4) [redacted] a component of the 6th Arty Div in Rathenow. Previous shipments of 32 artillery pieces to Rathenow [redacted]

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